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CLASSIFICATION: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~COUNTRY Poland REPORTTOPIC Troops and Military Installations in and around Johannesburg (Ples)

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EVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                      25X1DATE OF CONTENT                      25X1DATE OBTAINED                      DATE PREPARED 10 March 1955REFERENCES                     PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     REMARKS                     This is UNEVALUATED  
Information

1. By October 1954, no barracks installations were located in Johannesburg (R 54/A 54). The former county hospital located at the south-western perimeter of the town served as a hospital of the Polish Army and was guarded by an army sentry. 25X1

2. The military district headquarters in Ortelsburg (R 54/E 93) was in charge of the town of Johannesburg. Registration commission for example came from Ortelsburg. In the fall of 1954, ethnic Germans of the 1933 and 1934 classes had been drafted in Sdorren (R 54/A 55). An ethnic German of the 1929 class who had served for two years with a construction unit in Warsaw had been discharged in early October 1954. A young Pole from Sdorren served with an infantry unit in Czerwony Bor (R 54/F 78) near Lomza (R 54/A 79) in 1954. When on leave he was seen in army uniform with red service color.

3.    military labor and construction details were employed in the area between Glodowen and Johannesburg. Since the spring of 1954, soldiers of the construction details have been seen in Sdorren. Civilians from Karwik (R 54/A 54) were also employed in the military construction work. The location of the construction site at which temporary buildings had been erected was unknown. It was rumored among the local population that a former headquarters building of the German Air Force was being converted into a Polish officers' school. Construction work was not completed in the fall of 1954. 25X1

4. In the fall of 1954, it was rumored in Johannesburg that, effective 1 January 1955, the area of Arys was no longer to be governed by Johannesburg county. Johannesburg was to remain a county. In 1953, a scheduled bus of the Johannesburg-Kolno (R 54/A 61) line was attacked and, allegedly robbed by partisans. A member of the militia was killed during the raid. In the summer of 1954, the villages between Arys and Johannesburg were twice searched by Polish military personnel for deserters.

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